

County of Kauai
Department of Public Works

State of Hawaii
Department of Transportation, Highways Division

Federal Highway Administration U.S. Department of Transportation

LYDGATE PARK-KAPA'A BIKE/PEDESTRIAN PATH County of Kaua'i, Hawai'i

Final Environmental Assessment Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation

Submitted Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4332 (2)(c) and Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 USC 303)

U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration

Final Environmental Assessment/ Finding of No Significant Impact

Submitted Pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Chapter 343

State of Hawai'i, Department of Transportation, Highways Division County of Kaua'i Department of Public Works

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The following persons may be contacted for additional information concerning this document:

Abraham Wong, Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration U.S. Department of Transportation 300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 3306 Honolulu, HI 96813

Ph: (808) 541-2700

Barry Fukunaga, Interim Director Department of Transportation State of Hawaii 869 Punchbowl Street

Honolulu, HI 96813 Ph. (808) 587-2150 Donald Fujimoto, County Engineer Department of Public Works County of Kauai 4444 Rice Street, Suite 275 Lihue, HI 96766 Ph. (808) 241-6600

This Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) documents impact studies of a proposed bike/pedestrian path from Lydgate Park to Kapa'a (Waika'ea Canal) on the island of Kaua'i. The project's primary objective is to provide a safe, attractive facility that will expand options for non-motorized travel and recreation. At the north and south ends of the alignment, the path runs parallel to the coastline, and includes a cantilevered addition to the Wailua River cane haul bridge. The mid-section (between Wailua Shopping Plaza and Waipouli Town Center) runs mauka of Kuhio Hwy and alongside a drainage canal. There are spurs connecting to the Coconut Marketplace and Waipouli resort area. The shared use path will be 10-12 feet wide, allow two-way movement, and accommodate various non-motorized modes of travel. The path will typically consist of concrete with graded shoulders. Under some conditions, the path may be designed as a boardwalk or widened sidewalk. The scope of this project also includes two mauka-makai segments: (1) connecting the Lydgate Park-Kapa'a path to the Wailua House Lots Park and (2) connecting the Kawaihau Road path to the Kapa'a-Keālia bike-pedestrian path. The project is not expected to cause substantial environmental impacts because of limited construction area and location within pre-existing travel ways. Therefore, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been issued under HRS, Chapter 343. Measures to mitigate short-term (construction) and long-term impacts are available and will be implemented in accordance with applicable regulations and/or consultation with appropriate agencies.

LYDGATE PARK -- KAPA'A Bike/Pedestrian Path

CMAQ-0700(49)

FINAL Environmental Assessment

Prepared for:

County of Kauai
Department of Public Works

State of Hawaii
Department of Transportation

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

Prepared by:

KIMURA INTERNATIONAL 1600 Kapiolani Blvd, Suite 1610 Honolulu, HI 96814

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Preface

This Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) contains changes from the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the following reasons:

- 1. The DEA was written to evaluate the anticipated impacts of three build alternatives. Subsequent to that study, the project sponsors selected a preferred alternative, which is the focal point of the FEA. In other words, the FEA is a detailed examination of impacts associated with the preferred (or final build) alternative. The alternatives considered in the DEA—but not selected—are described in Chapter 3 of the FEA. Readers who wish to revisit the environmental assessment of these earlier alternatives are referred to the DEA, dated May 2004. The DEA provides a comparative evaluation of potential impacts and mitigations.
- 2. The FEA incorporates discussions pertaining to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and compliance with other federal environmental regulations (see Chapter 6).
- 3. During the 30-day review period for the DEA (June 8 to July 7, 2004), comments were received from 12 government agencies and 31 individuals and organizations. Where the comments led to additional research and new information, clarification, or the need for correction, these changes have been incorporated into the FEA. Written comments and responses have been reproduced in Chapter 10. Verbal comments were received at a third public meeting, held on July 1, 2004 (during the public review period); proceedings of that meeting and responses to comments are included in Appendix G of the FEA.

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Glossary of Acronyms and Hawaiian Terms*

AASHTO American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials

ADA Americans with Disabilities Act

ADAAG Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines ahupua'a a land division usually extending from the uplands to the sea

'auwai ditch; irrigation ditch

CRM cement rubble masonry

DOH Department of Health, State of Hawaii

DOT Department of Transportation, State of Hawaii

EA Environmental Assessment

FHWA Federal Highway Administration FONSI Finding of No Significant Impact

HRS Hawai'i Revised Statutes

heiau Pre-Christian place of worship; shrine

kama'āina native born, one born in a place; acquainted, familiar

KIUC Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative kuleana small parcel of land within an ahupua'a

LCA Land Commission Award. Awards issued by the Board of Commissioners to Quiet Land

Titles 1846-1855 to persons who filed claims to land 1846-1848

lo'i irrigated terrace, especially for taro, but also for rice; paddy

kula pasture, field

makai toward the ocean (seaward)

mauka toward the mountains (inland or landward)

MSE mechanically stabilized earth (type of construction under slope conditions)

MSL mean sea level

naupaka a spreading, succulent species of shrub (Scaevola) found near coasts and in mountains

NPDES National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

OEQC Office of Environmental Quality Control

'ohana family, relative

SMA Special Management Area SSV Shoreline Setback Variance

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^{*} English definitions of Hawaiian terms from *Hawaiian Dictionary*, Revised and Enlarged Edition (Pukui and Elbert, 1986) and *Dictionary of Hawaiian Legal Land-Terms* (Lucas, 1995)

